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DE919990078

Amendment to the Claims:

In compliance with the Notice Of Non-Compliant Amendment, the amendments to claims 7 and 9 are presented as follows:

7. (Currently Amended) A system ~~comprising means adapted for carrying out the steps of claim 1 for providing a set of software components for component-oriented software development, said system comprising:~~

means for providing a set of software components out of which a software application to be executed by an apparatus comprising processor means and memory means can be partly or entirely assembled, wherein said software components are self-contained, reusable software units that can be visually composed into applets or applications using visual application builder tools;

means for assigning a different numeric identifier to each component of said set of software components; and

means for storing each assigned numeric identifier in the corresponding component.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product loadable into memory means of a digital computer, comprising software code for performing ~~the steps of claim 4 a method for providing a set of software components for component-oriented software development, said method comprising:~~

providing a set of software components out of which a software application to be executed by an apparatus comprising processor means and memory means can be partly or entirely assembled, wherein said software components are self-contained, reusable software units that can be visually composed into applets or applications using visual application builder tools;

assigning a different numeric identifier to each component of said set of software components; and

storing each assigned numeric identifier in the corresponding component.